

# The Brethren Evangelist,

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## THANKSGIVING.

*It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord.*

*I will give thee thanks in the great congregation.*

*O Lord, my God, I will give thanks unto thee forever.*

*Offer unto God thanksgiving, and pay thy vows unto the most high.*

*Thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endureth forever.*

*Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving: sing praise upon the harp unto our God.*

*In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*

*I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.*

*I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord.*

*Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.*

*Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him and bless his name.*

*O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; for his mercy endureth forever.*

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise.*

*Be thankful unto him, and bless his holy name.*

*I will give thanks unto the Lord with my whole heart, in the council of the upright, and in the congregation.*

*Thou crownest the year with thy goodness and thy paths drop fatness. I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord; yea, in the presence of all his people; in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem.*

*Thou shalt eat the labor of thine hands; happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee. Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine in the innermost parts of thine house; thy children like olive plants about thy table. Thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life; yea, thou shalt see thy children's children.*

*The eyes of all wait upon Thee; and Thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thy hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.*

*Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem. Praise thy God O Zion.*

## THANKSGIVING.

There are many things for which we should give thanks, many reasons why we should give thanks, and many practical benefits and blessings coming to the thankful heart. Let us note a few as suggested in the sermons of able preachers.

### I. WE SHOULD BE THANKFUL FOR—

1. The traces of the Hand of Providence, in our national history.

2. The Triumph of Evangelical Truth through and over Skepticism.

3. The Development of Modern Industries which Help to Advance Christianity.

4. The advanced moral and religious condition of our country.

5. The Beauty of the Land We Live in.

6. The Exaltation of the Family Relationship and Home Life.

7. The Varied and Valuable Blessings that have come to us as a Nation, from the Beneficent Hand of God.

8. Small favors even amid great trials.

9. The Least of Blessings from God.

### II. THE VALUE OF THANKSGIVING. IT—

1. Reminds us that God is the Source of All Material Prosperity.

2. Promotes Patriotism and Happiness.

3. Exhibits and Exalts Character.

4. Helps to Foster the Spirit of Hopefulness.

5. Strengthens the Family Relationship.

6. Promotes Our Spiritual Strength.

### III. WHY WE SHOULD BE THANKFUL. BECAUSE—

1. Nature Prompts to Thanksgiving.

2. The Bible Prompts Us to Thanksgiving.

3. Devout Feeling is a Prime Motive for the Observance of Thanksgiving Day.

4. "Thought" Prompts Us to Thanksgiving.

5. An appreciative heart always finds something to be thankful for.

6. Of the Clear Consciousness that all our Blessings Come from God.

7. The Gratitude Manifested by Children to their parents, prompts us to render Thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father.

8. It is a Moral and Religious Duty.

## GIVE THANKS.

Before another issue of the EVANGELIST reaches our readers, Thanksgiving Day will have come and gone. As we look back over the past, we recognize the kind hand of Providence, guiding us along the vista of years. How good, how kind, has the great

God of earth and heaven been to us. As individuals, as a church, as a nation, we have reasons for profound thanksgiving on this day. We should gather in our places of worship and thank God for the good way that he has led us, and inquire what is the way before us, how we can rise to higher, more acceptable service and truer and greater success. Let us thank God:

*First.* Because it is a duty. He has enjoined it and surely he has a right to demand of us grateful hearts. If there is anyone duty enforced in the word of God, it is this that we should be thankful. The unthankful heart finds no favor in the eyes of God. Everywhere the Bible calls upon us for thanksgiving. "Praise the Lord." "Come before the Lord with praises and thanksgiving." "O give thanks unto the Lord." "Bless the Lord, O my soul." "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord." "First of all, give thanks." The Bible abounds in these admonitions to thanksgiving. In obedience to the word therefore, let us gather in the house of our God and praise his holy name. We should thank God:

*Second.* For what he has done for us. How great, how many have been his blessings True, there have been great changes wrought during the past year. True, times have been hard with many; the poor have suffered. Homes have been broken up; our friends have died; ties have been severed; yet out of all these, under the divine government of God, good will come. The earth continues to yield her increase. Crops, while not so large as usual, have nevertheless been plentiful. Looking up toward him from whence come all our blessings, we can truthfully and thankfully say, "Thou crownest the year with thy goodness." For the success of the churches, for the triumphs of truth, for the conversion of souls, the advancement of the Master's cause, for the self-denials and sacrifices on the part of those who have labored in this and other fields for the kingdom of God, we thank his holy name. For the gradual coming of Christ into human hearts, for the forces of religion and knowledge and culture and commerce, banded together in the service of Christ, for these and other spiritual blessings, we are profoundly grateful and praise the blessed name of Christ. We should thank God:

*Third.* For our preservation as individ-